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‘LAWLESS’ COULD USE A BIT MORE STRUCTURE {page 16}

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Wednesday, August 29, 2012

Mr. Excitement, Bill Belichick, can do no wrong in the minds of Boston sports fans Even more so than Tom Brady, Patriots head coach is the most popular sports figure in the region {page 22}

THE KING OF NEW ENGLAND

news

African leader on new power and prosperity

Rwanda’s president gives Metro exclusive interview {pages 10-11}

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In the news

$2

The Massachusetts State Lottery teamed up with the New England Patriots on Monday to release the third Patriot-themed lottery ticket since 2009, when it became the first lottery to feature an NFL team logo on an instant ticket. The new $2 tickets have a $50,000 top prize, but certain winners of "second-chance" drawings could be selected to visit Gillette Stadium for the Mass. Lottery Halftime Challenge, where the top prize is $200,000.
SHNS

Today's local tweet

"I don't think it's hit me that I'll be living in one of the greatest cities in 2 days. #Boston"

SOON-TO-BE HUB RESIDENT @ALECFOUCAULT KNOWS WHAT'S UP.

News in brief

State intervening in Boston schools dispute

BOSTON. The state Department of Labor Relations will step in and break an impasse between the Boston Teachers Union and the city over implementing the state's new teacher evaluation system passed by the Legislature this spring.

Erica Crystal, the director of the Department of Labor Relations, wrote a letter Monday to the Boston School Committee and the Boston Teachers Union saying the department "finds that mediation has failed to resolve the impasse." The Department of Labor will launch a fact-finding process, an unusual step that could take several months. SHNS

Northeastern student plunges from garage

BOSTON. A Northeastern University student died after a fall from a school parking garage near Columbus Avenue.

"We are deeply saddened by the tragic and untimely death of our student, Andrew Fisher," the university said yesterday in a statement.

"Our thoughts are with Andrew's family and friends during this difficult time. The university is making available a number of counseling resources to those in the Northeastern community affected by this terrible loss."

It was not immediately clear whether the death was a suicide or an accident.
METRO

Historic whale sighting on Cape

CAPE COD. Researchers said yesterday that they spotted a whale that's not common in the waters off of Massachusetts.

Researchers from the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies took pictures of the bowhead whale near Orleans in March, according to WBZ.

It was the first time in recorded history a bowhead whale was located off of Cape Cod.

Bowhead whales are typically located in the Arctic Ocean and far northern Atlantic and Pacific oceans.
METRO

T search on for 11 wanted men

The MBTA transit police yesterday released a "wanted" poster for 11 suspects accused of larceny, assault and drug crimes in the transit system.

Some of the crimes include indecent assault and battery at Downtown Crossing station, open and gross lewdness at the South Station bus terminal, assault and battery of a T employee at the Park Street station and drug distribution at the JFK/UMass station, police said.

Reports of assaults on T workers and riders have made headlines lately, with an incident last week in which an MBTA bus driver was allegedly punched in the face for not stopping for an irate passenger.

But the most common crime in the T, according to transit police, is larceny, with 484 reported since January.

Of those, 152 involved the theft of bicycles or bike parts, and the majority of thefts are happening at the Forest Hills station in Jamaica Plain.

However, that doesn't mean that the station is any more dangerous than others in the transit system, police said.

"There are a lot of factors to take into consideration. To say that any station is more dangerous than another would be inaccurate," said Transit Police Superintendent-in Chief Joseph O'Connor, adding, "Any time we see a pattern emerging, we add resources to that area. Right now our focus is on the Forest Hills station for bike larcenies. Hopefully we'll have some success there."

According to transit police statistics, there have been 276 reported simple assaults this year and 29 reports of indecent assault and battery – down from 37 during the same time period last year.

By releasing information on wanted criminals, T police hope to get help from the public.

"These are not crimes that have happened over the last few days," O'Connor said. "These are people who have warrants, and we believe that the public viewing these individuals may give us tips leading to their arrest, bringing them back into the court system."

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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3 charged in beating of disabled man

Two people accused of beating a man suffering from a schizoaffective disorder at Downtown Crossing station Monday were arraigned in Boston Municipal Court yesterday.

Karen Akiba, 22, of Cambridge, and Bryon Lashus, 32 of Watertown, were arraigned on charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon – in this case a shod foot – and assault and battery on a disabled person after allegedly attacking the 40-year-old man around 12:37 a.m.

Boston Municipal Court Judge Patricia Bernstein imposed $2,000 cash bail for Akiba. She did not impose bail for Lashus after his attorney said he was assisting in the investigation, but she did order him to stay away from and have no contact with the victim or any witnesses.

▶ Downtown Crossing

Transit Police arrested a third suspect yesterday – Maryanne Hamilton, 29, of Jamaica Plain – after they found her in the courthouse following Akiba's and Lashus' arraignments. She will also face charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and assault and battery on a disabled person.

According to transit police, the disabled victim was repeatedly punched and kicked and was found bleeding, with several cuts, scrapes and severe bruising as a result of the alleged attack.

The victim told officers that before the attack he was waiting for a train on the platform, where he had a "verbal dispute" with a woman who was in the company of several other men.

The assailants fled before police arrived, but Akiba and Lashus were arrested shortly after. Police said there seemed to be no motive for the attack.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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MBCR honors Olympic heroes

The Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad Company yesterday began honoring local Olympic heroes Aly Raisman and Kayla Harrison by unveiling two decked out coaches on the MBTA's commuter rail fleet.

One coach, which will travel the Needham commuter rail line, will feature a banner with a message of congratulations to Needham's Aly Raisman, who captured two gold medals and a bronze medal at 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London.

The second coach, which will travel the Newburyport/Rockport line, will celebrate the accomplishments of Marblehead resident Kayla Harrison, who became the first American to win an Olympic gold medal in judo.

Marblehead is near that line's Swampscott and Salem stops on the line.

Each coach will carry its banner for approximately one week. METRO/MR

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a very big ball of fire?

Skygazers report a meteor over Boston around 9 p.m. on Monday

Was the Boston sky recently ablaze with a fireball?

According to local skygazers, for a few seconds Monday night, it was.

Lunar Meteorite Hunters, a blog that allows people across the globe to report meteor sightings, got five local reports of a colorful fireball around 9 p.m. Monday.

David Kelley from Quincy reported seeing it at 9:05 p.m., and said it sparked the sky for about five seconds. He described the possible meteor as "lime green" and "fairly bright, very noticeable," and said it "looked like a fireball."

A Boston woman named Cathy reported seeing it at 9:11 p.m., saying it lasted "probably two seconds, then I couldn't see it because of trees."

The ball had a "yellow and orangish, white tail, then it glowed suddenly very bright. ... Never have seen anything like it," she wrote.

Tereasa Brainerd, chair of Boston University's Astronomy Department, could not confirm the light was a meteor and said sightings are rare.

"I've seen two in the past 20 years, but I just happened to be looking in the right place at the right time, and it was a very dark sky in both cases,"

Maxx, from Brighton, said Monday night's object "was very long with a solid tip."

A Weymouth man and a Lowell woman also reported seeing it a little after 9 p.m., however they said it lasted longer — up to seven seconds.

"Bright Green rectangle with a slanted, pointed end," wrote Lisa Foster of Lowell. "[It was as] bright as the moon."

Boston University Astronomy professor Meers Oppenheim said that while large meteors are less commonly spotted, small ones likely pass over the Hub all the time.

"If you lay on your back at night on any random night you will see a little meteor — a shooting star — about every 10 minutes on average, if the skies are dark and clear," he said, adding they only spark the sky for a second or two.

Bloggers in northern New England also reported sightings.

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School. Session

▶ Incoming kindergarten students celebrated the upcoming school year on the 3-story climbing sculpture at the Boston Children's Museum.

COURTNEY SACCO/METRO

Pupils receive Museum welcome

Hundreds of incoming kindergarten students were welcomed to the Boston Public School system during a celebration event at the Children's Museum yesterday afternoon. Students enjoyed an afternoon of games, activities and food before their first day of school, which is scheduled for Sept. 10. METRO

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Parking restrictions already in place for Hub's move-in

Preparing for the move-in madness that hits the Hub at this time of the year, city officials yesterday announced parking restrictions in certain neighborhoods.

"Due to student move-in activity at Boston's many colleges and universities, temporary traffic and parking restrictions will be in place at multiple locations over the next few days," the city said in its alert. "Every effort is being made by both school administrators and the city to ensure that the job is accomplished quickly and efficiently with the least amount of inconvenience to local residents and motorists as possible."

The new parking restrictions started yesterday along many roadways in the Fenway neighborhood and will last through Sept. 2. Northeastern University has offered up its garage and parking facilities to Fenway residents who are displaced, the city said.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Commonwealth Avenue in Brighton was inundated with students moving in last year.

No-stopping restrictions start around Boston University and in Allston and Brighton on Thursday and last through Sept. 3.

On Mission Hill, parking restrictions will be in place on Saturday, but cars with a current Mission Hill resident sticker will be exempt from the order.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Driver beware

Restrictions are already in place in the Fenway neighborhood on some of the following streets:

- Opera Place, both sides, from Huntington Avenue to Saint Stephen Street
- Saint Stephen Street, both sides, Massachusetts Avenue to Opera Place
- Gainsborough Street, both sides, from Huntington Avenue to Hemenway Street
- Symphony Road, both sides, from Huntington Avenue to Hemenway Street
- Westland Avenue, both sides, from Hemenway Street to Massachusetts Avenue

Visit www.cityofboston.gov/transportation for more information.

By the numbers

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Are you registered to vote?

Ahead of the state's primary election on Sept. 6, Secretary of State William Galvin released the state's most updated voter registration numbers yesterday.

4.18M
The number of registered voters in the state.

1.7%
The increase in voters since the presidential primary in March. Since then, the number of unenrolled voters has climbed, while the two major parties dropped slightly.

138,447
The number of registered voters in Boston who are unenrolled in a political party.

6.7%
The amount of registered Republicans in Boston. Democrats claim 54.7 percent.

592
Boston leads the state with nearly 600 registered Green-Rainbow party members. Cambridge is second with 260.

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New Orleans in line of fire, seven years after Katrina

Tropical Storm Isaac strengthened into a hurricane just off the U.S. Gulf Coast yesterday, lashing the New Orleans area with strong winds and heavy rain seven years after the city was devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Isaac's storm surge could pose a major test of New Orleans' new flood control systems and reinforced levees. Forecasts from the U.S. National Hurricane Center showed the storm coming ashore in the Mississippi Delta late yesterday, possibly taking direct aim at the so-called Crescent City.

"Isaac has finally formed into a hurricane, so we are officially in the fight, and the city of New Orleans is on the front lines," New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu told reporters.

"Citizens have to be prepared. I'm going to ask you to hunker down," Landrieu said as hundreds of U.S. Army National Guard troops took up strategic positions around New Orleans.

Brandishing automatic assault rifles to ward off any threat of looting, the troops in military vehicles took up positions on mostly deserted streets. Their arrival came as driving rain and stiff winds began battering the city's iconic French Quarter.

Earlier, the Army Corps of Engineers closed for the first time the massive new floodgate on the largest storm-surge barrier in the world, at Lake Borgne, east of New Orleans. **REUTERS**

JAMES NIELSON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Sandbags protect a storefront on Canal Street in preparation for Hurricane Isaac yesterday in New Orleans.

$14.5 billion flood defense

After Katrina, the Corps of Engineers built a $14.5 billion flood defense system of walls, floodgates, levees and pumps designed to protect the city against a massive tidal surge like the one that swamped New Orleans in Katrina's wake.

The floodgate that closed yesterday is 26 feet high and 1.8 miles long. It was designed to prevent the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal from breaching its walls. **REUTERS**

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WORLD EXCLUSIVE: PRESIDENT OF RWANDA

Paul Kagame

The United Nations, based in New York City, is the world's parliament. Metro, as one of the biggest newspapers in the city, today begins a series of interviews with leading political figures on important issues. In a world exclusive, Metro speaks to Paul Kagame, the president of Rwanda, an ally of the U.S.

His government stands accused by a U.N. Group of Experts of fomenting rebellion in diamond- and gold-rich eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a charge Kagame denies. Into this volatile mix of political charge and counter-charge, Rwanda is poised to take up a coveted seat on the U.N. Security Council.

Kagame: We are not interfering in neighboring countries Head of the UN Group of Experts is labeled 'partisan political activist' Claims of human rights abuses driven by 'unaccountable advocacy groups'

Quoted

"We do not like to be lectured by unaccountable advocacy groups ... about how to protect the rights of our citizens."
PAUL KAGAME

▶ Paul Kagame is president of the Republic of Rwanda.

The last time Rwanda sat as a member of the United Nations Security Council was in 1994. It was between April and July of that year — more than 100 days — that more than 1 million mainly ethnic Tutsis were slaughtered in a genocide overseen by a regime whose representative the U.N. told the world to look the other way.

Almost two decades later, Rwanda, a strong ally of the United States and Israel, is again seeking a seat at the U.N. Security Council.

This time the government is led by President Paul Kagame, who led forces that liberated Rwanda's capital, Kigali, and brought a halt to the genocide in 1994. Well-disposed Western visitors to Rwanda include former President Bill Clinton, former U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair and Starbucks boss Howard Schultz.

Rwanda's prospective elevation to the Security Council is not without its critics, especially in light of recent accusations that President Kagame's government is providing illicit support to an armed mutiny in the neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo. Kagame vehemently denies the claims, but this hasn't stopped several donor countries suspending aid to Rwanda.

Since 1994, when the fleeing genocidal forces escaped to the lawless eastern part of Congo, relations between the neighbors have been fraught. Nonetheless, Kagame insists that Rwanda plays no part in the current crisis in the DRC — claiming he has no interest in 'costly, pointless foreign adventures' that divert his country's progress from the world's poorest country 20 years ago to one of Africa's most dynamic countries today.

On the cusp of your nation's Security Council membership, an addendum to a United Nations report by the Group of Experts accused Rwanda of unacceptable interference in the mineral-rich eastern part of the DRC, where lawless militia and illicit business interests rule, for failure of control of a weak central Congolese government. How do you respond to these accusations?

These accusations are not true. Our national priorities have to be directed toward our country's development, not toward foreign ventures, in particular illicit ones. The history and national interest of Rwanda and the Rwandan people dictate our national orientation. Our country experienced the horrors of genocide only 18 years ago. Since then, on the basis of a policy of national reconciliation, more than 1 million of our people have been lifted out of poverty, over 90 percent of Rwandans are covered by health insurance and we are ranked by World Bank Doing Business as the third easiest place to do business in Africa, under conditions of low corruption according to Transparency International. We have established wonderful partnerships with development partners. We're attempting to rebuild the structures of our society in a way whereby every Rwandan has a stake in our future.

Many commentators, including the U.N. Group of Experts on the DRC, seem to believe historical and cultural ties to the rebel groups make it inevitable that Rwanda will get involved. You worked with these groups before, and you share ethnic and language heritage with them. Don't you see how this causes suspicion?

There's a habit in the West to view Africa and our region in particular through the outdated and erroneous prism of tribalism and ethnicity. Because there are Congolese of Rwandan origin, such as those you referred to in your questions, who rebel against the Congolese government, people jump to the conclusions that Rwanda must be complicit in supporting them. Modern Rwanda rejects this primitive outlook. We embrace our Rwandan national identity and we will pursue our national interest irrespective of events in neighboring countries, regardless of so-called tribal affiliations. The new Rwanda is about building an economy that delivers prosperity and opportunity for our citizens based on a robust private sector. Foreign adventures would be costly and counterproductive distractions from these challenging objectives.

We simply cannot support a rebellion outside our border.

The Rwandan people, put to the sword perhaps like no other in the last 50 years, know the value of peace. So do I.

Rwanda has come in for a lot of criticism from human rights groups for alleged support for rebel groups like M23 as well as broader criticisms over your record on media and political freedoms. What is your response to these criticisms?

I understand that human rights groups are locked in a fierce competition for big checks from wealthy donors and they need to generate big headlines. We do not like to be lectured to by unaccountable advocacy groups acting for their financiers about how to protect the rights of our

Rwanda time line

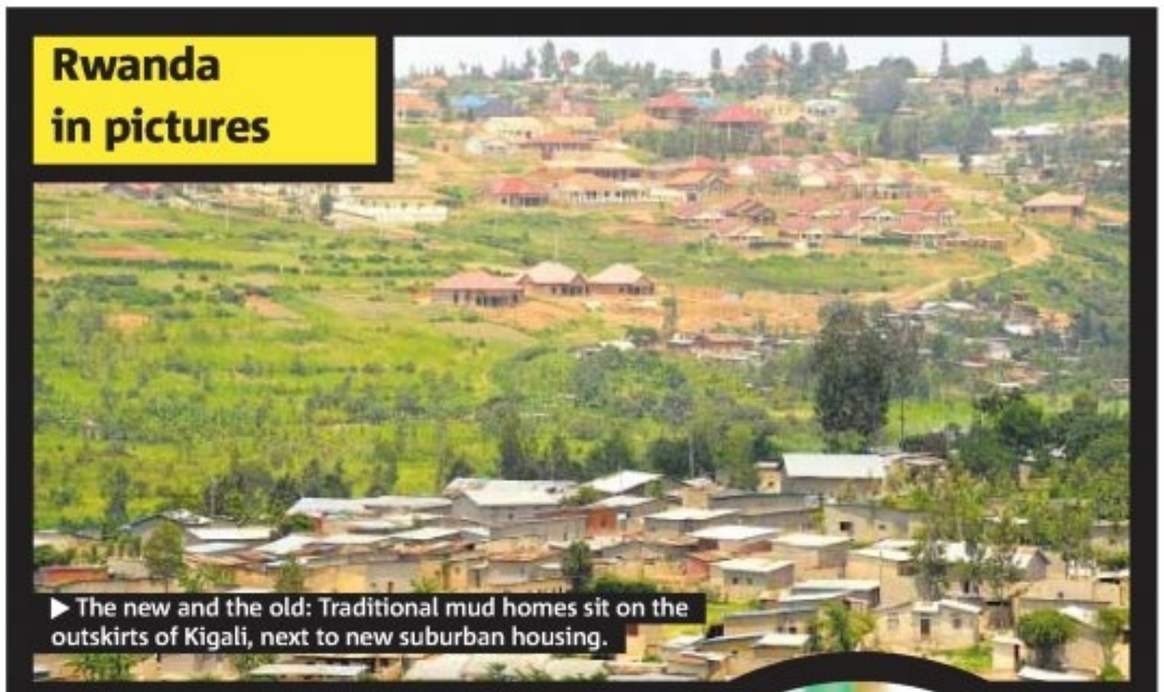
Rwanda experienced colonialism before it gained independence from Belgium in 1962. Decades of ethnic division followed:

- **1973-1986:** Hutu president Juvenal Habyarimana runs an effective one-party state until the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front is formed.
- **Oct. 1990:** RPF guerrillas invade Rwanda from neighboring Uganda. A ceasefire is signed in March 1991.
- **August 1993:** Habyarimana and the RPF sign a peace accord allowing for a coalition government.
- **Jan. 10, 1994:** General Romeo Dallaire, head of U.N. peacekeepers in Rwanda, sends a cable to New York warning of impending genocide. He is ordered to do nothing.
- **April 6, 1994:** Habyarimana dies when his plane is shot down at Kigali. Radio Television Libres Des Mille Collines blames "Tutsi cockroaches." The killing of Tutsis begins.
- **April 11, 1994:** Belgian UN peacekeepers withdraw, abandoning 5,000 Tutsis, almost all of whom are killed.
- **April 30, 1994:** The U.N. Security Council spends eight hours discussing the situation. It omits the word "genocide" in a resolution.
- **July 1994:** The Tutsi-dominated RPF captures Kigali. Nearly 1 million, mainly Tutsis, are dead after 100 days.
- **March 2000:** Paul Kagame becomes president of Rwanda.
- **2000-2012:** Rwanda produces exceptional economic growth and levels of healthcare. It is praised by Western governments as a model of stability in Africa.
- **2000-2012:** But the U.N. claims persist that it is fomenting rebellion in neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo, where Hutu extremists behind the 1994 genocide are said to have fled.
- **2012:** Rwanda is expected to join the U.N. Security Council.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Images of genocide victims at the Kigalo Genocide Memorial

Rwanda in pictures



▶ The new and the old: Traditional mud homes sit on the outskirts of Kigali, next to new suburban housing.

Rwanda faces criticism.

▶ Rwanda is cited as a model of African stability.

The U.N. responds

Metro yesterday contacted the United Nations and put President Kagame's remarks concerning the Coordinator of the Group of Experts to the U.N. for response.

- A spokesperson for the office of the U.N. Secretary General said that members of the panel of experts, such as the GoE, were independent "and we trust them to do a professional job."
- The report of the Group of Experts concerning the Democratic Republic of Congo, which contained references to Rwanda, had been presented to the Security Council, which would review its contents and make any necessary judgments.
- Metro made two further calls yesterday to the U.N. seeking contact with Steve Hege, the Coordinator of the Group of Experts, to put President Kagame's points to him directly. The UN said it was 'not standard practice to refer members of the Group of Experts to the media.'

Q&A

The New York Times quoted a report by a human rights group accusing you of running a repressive regime. How do you answer those claims?

They are mainly talking about laws related to genocide ideology, which I am more than happy to defend. Rwandans will not tolerate voices that promote a return to the ethnic divisionism that precipitated the genocide 18 years ago. To that extent, we place limits on freedom of expression in a similar way to how much of Europe has made it a crime to deny the Holocaust. Aside from that, Rwanda is a very open and free country. Key to our recovery as a nation has a range of grassroots, citizen-centered polices we call "homegrown solutions." The idea that Rwanda is highly controlled from the center belies the reality, which is that citizens in every village have a powerful say in how things get done. We prize accountability and Rwandans are quickly adapting themselves to the possibilities of a digital economy. A lot of this talk of repression results from outdated stereotypes about Africa.

citizens. Human rights are not the preserve of Western activists: The definition must extend to encompass the right to the dignified life; the right to send your kids to school, for that child to get health care, for access for greater prosperity for generations to come and to have a say in the destiny of your community and country. Under that definition, Rwanda has nothing to learn from advocacy groups who think they own the copyright on what constitutes human rights under all conditions in every corner of the world.

Your government is reported to view Steve Hege, Coordinator of the U.N. Group of Experts — which in an addendum to its own report has accused Rwanda of fomenting unrest in eastern Congo — as having an impermissibly "benign view" of people who carried out the 1994 genocide. Is this still your view?

We understand that experts come to the table with a variety of preconceived ideas and opinions. We accept that, in some cases, this will work against Rwanda's interests. But there is a point at which this translates into outright bias. In the case of the Coordinator of the Group of Experts, he has crossed the line from expert to partisan political activist. His anti-Rwandan views are well on the record and both the methodology and falsehoods that have found their way into the offensive addendum to the report conform to his unacceptable views. In his prior writings this coordinator appeared as an apologist for a group of Congo-based extremist militants who have repeatedly been sanctioned by the U.N. Security Council and whose leaders are the same leaders which factually led the genocide and were labeled terrorist by the U.S. State Department.

It is completely unacceptable for a person with this history to sit in judgment on Rwanda or any other country for that matter. It's really all quite extraordinary. Rwanda will not let this matter stand.

Western governments, including the U.S., have withheld aid to Rwanda over M23 daims. What do you see as the consequences?

Some countries have reacted to this very flawed U.N. report by temporarily suspending aid funding to Rwanda. This is regrettable, because we place a high value on good relations with development partners. But we are confident that these funds will be unfrozen once we tell our side of the story. It is a timely reminder to Rwandans that we still have some way to travel as a nation before we are truly independent. Strong economic growth, and especially a significant increase in private sector investment, is the only sustainable path forward for Rwanda. The donors as recipients can undermine aid effectiveness just as easily, and this is exactly what happens when countries use the development dollar as a weapon to impose political will on smaller and less powerful countries.

Rwanda is said to have economic interests in Eastern Congo: You are accused of looting mineral resources in the DRC.

This is a persistent myth. Rwanda leads the region in stamping out illegal trade in minerals. We have a functioning mineral certification process. We play by the rules. Recently we handed back to the DRC 80 tons of minerals that had been smuggled into Rwanda. Our geographic position dictates that our economic interests are best served by a stable and prosperous DRC, because under such conditions, Rwanda would benefit greatly from increased trade and legitimate transit of Congolese minerals. To this end, Rwanda supports the establishment of a so-called "Neutral Force" which has been agreed between the 11 member states of the International Conference of the Great Lakes region in Africa. This is a homegrown solution to a regional border problem.

Rwanda has been described as the "Israel of Africa." What similarities do you see between the two? And what lessons can you learn from Israel, especially in dealings with the U.N.?

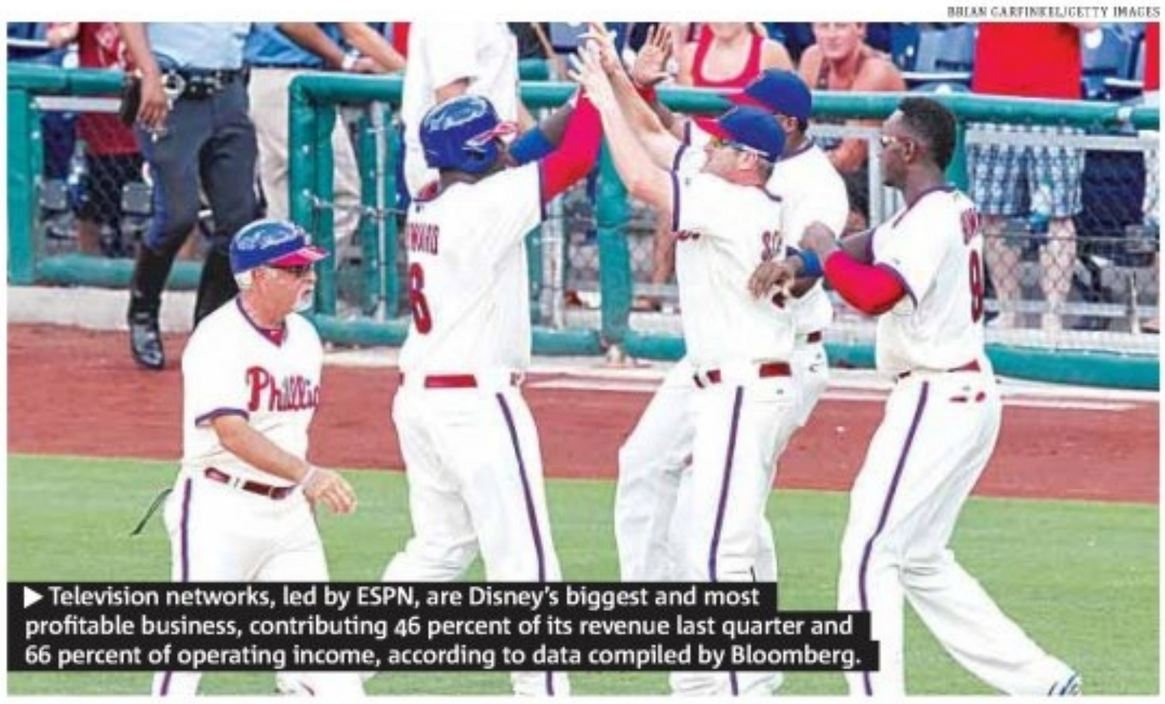
Like Israel, we live in a difficult neighborhood. We understand that national security is vital for economic and social progress. Our sense of national purpose has been forged in unfathomable tragedy. We also have in common critics who attack our fundamental legitimacy, or even our very right to exist. Israel and Rwanda both play an active part in international organizations, including the U.N., but I think it's true that our unique experiences as nations have shaped a fierce independence that we will not relinquish. METRO

Quoted

"The Rwandan people, put to the sword perhaps like no other in the last 50 years, know the value of peace. So do I." PAUL KAGAME

ESPN reaches $5.6 B deal to expand MLB coverage

BRIAN GARFINKEL/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Television networks, led by ESPN, are Disney's biggest and most profitable business, contributing 46 percent of its revenue last quarter and 66 percent of operating income, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

ESPN reached a new eight-year deal with Major League Baseball, extending the cable network's rights to more games, studio programming and online coverage through 2021.

The network will spend $5.6 billion, about double what it currently pays baseball for domestic and international TV rights, digital programming and radio coverage, according to a person with knowledge of the situation who wasn't authorized to speak publicly.

ESPN, the dominant sports channel, extended its commitment to baseball as it confronts stepped-up competition from NBC and CBS cable networks and a potential new entrant from Fox.

As media companies bid up the price of TV rights, cable carriers have resisted absorbing the added costs, leading to contract disputes and blackouts.

"The enormous scope of what we acquired will provide fans with more live baseball and more ways to access baseball content than ever before," John Skipper, ESPN's president, said in the statement.

Under the accord, the Bristol, Conn.-based sports cable network will gain rights to 10 additional regular season games and more footage highlights for use in multiple media, the league and ESPN said today in a statement. The network will also face fewer blackouts where local channels also have rights.

BLOOMBERG

Wild-card game added

The deal, starting in 2014, also gives ESPN rights to one annual wild-card game, a playoff match-up that baseball added this year, and any tiebreakers that may occur.

Sports Business Daily reported the agreement earlier yesterday.

Disney, based in Burbank, Calif., closed unchanged at $49.63 in New York. Shares of the world's largest entertainment company have gained 32 percent this year.

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METRO CREDIT UNION

Anne Romney takes stage to humanize her husband

When she speaks with someone, Ann Romney focuses on her subject with the intensity of a mother skilled in keeping a child's attention.

That maternal presence — and her experience with raising five sons — has helped her connect with average voters in a way that comes less naturally for her husband, Mitt Romney.

Her challenge last night at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Florida — her biggest stage yet — was to humanize her husband for Americans who haven't so far found him very likable. She needed to show that he's more than a former private equity executive who's good with numbers, and that he cares about their needs.

"A spouse can really personalize him."

DIANNE BYSTROM, DIRECTOR OF THE CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT CENTER FOR WOMEN AND POLITICS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

"A spouse can really personalize him," said Dianne Bystrom, director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at Iowa State University in Ames. "She needs to talk to the American public in a personal way about what she sees in Mitt Romney, as a husband and a father."

Ann Romney said yesterday that she has worked hard to craft her remarks. She spent much of the flight to Tampa huddled with advisers, refining the speech. After practicing Monday in a New Hampshire high school, she baked hundreds of Welsh cakes, a British teatime sweet beloved by her husband. **BLOOMBERG**

Gender gap

- Women, who represent 52 percent of the U.S. electorate, are a crucial group in every presidential election, and polling shows President Barack Obama with a significant advantage among female voters. They prefer Obama over Romney by an eight-percentage-point margin, according to Gallup daily tracking polls conducted July 30 through Aug. 19.
- The existence of Romney's gender gap has received renewed focus in recent days after Todd Akin said that "legitimate rape" rarely leads to pregnancy and so abortion shouldn't be allowed in rape cases.

EMMANUEL DUNAND/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Because of her multiple sclerosis, Ann Romney doesn't have the campaign-trail stamina of First Lady Michelle Obama. In March, she had a flare-up of the autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system.

News in brief

New poll outlines challenges, also openings for Mitt

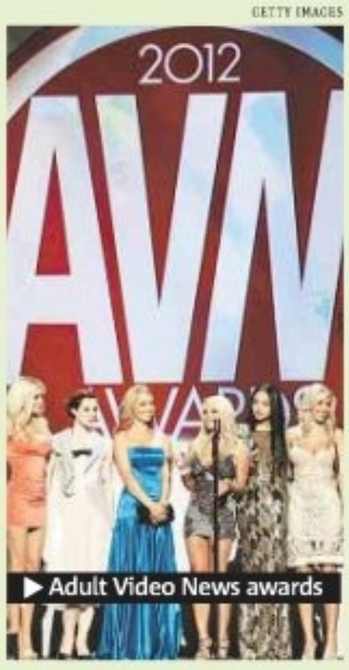
TAMPA, FLA. Mitt Romney enters the convention week facing serious challenges in his drive to unseat President Obama in the Nov. 6 election, with the Democrat outscoring him on eloquence and likability, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll released Monday.

But many factors weigh in the Republican's favor as he seeks a boost from his Tampa, Fla., convention. An overwhelming majority of Americans believe the U.S. economy is on the wrong track, the poll found. **REUTERS**

GOP convention call for crackdown on all types of porn

TAMPA, FLA. The Republican Party is calling for a crackdown on pornography in a move that could pit social conservatives against hotel operators, television providers and other businesses that profit from the sale of sexually explicit material.

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Adult Video News awards

As they prepare to nominate Mitt Romney as their presidential candidate for the Nov. 6 election, Republicans have added language to their official platform that anti-smut activists said would encourage the federal government to step up prosecution of pornography involving adults.

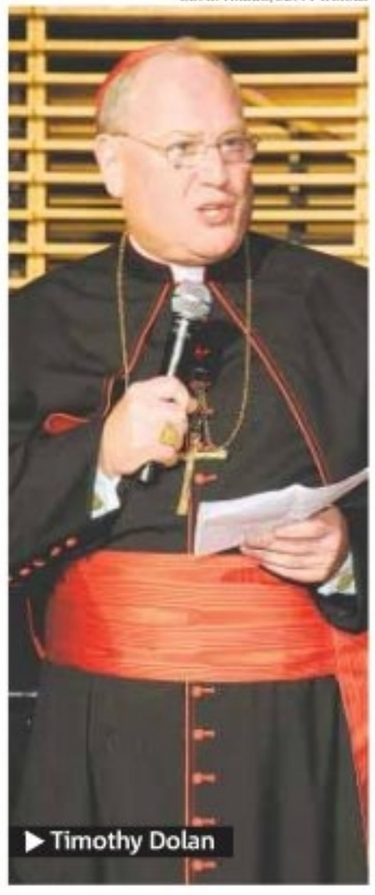
"Current laws on all forms of pornography and obscenity need to be vigorously enforced," the platform says, according to a draft obtained by Reuters. Republicans are planning a vote on the document, a nonbinding statement of principles that tackles everything from monetary policy to abortion.

Though previous Republican platforms have called for increased prosecution of child pornography, this appears to be the first time that the party has called for a crackdown on sexually explicit material involving adults — a multi-billion-dollar industry.

Obscenity has been notoriously difficult to define in a legal context. The Supreme Court in 1973 held that to be obscene, material must depict sex in a manner that offends contemporary community standards and is devoid of artistic or scientific value. **REUTERS**

Dolan to pray at both conventions this year

KEVIN MAZUR/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Timothy Dolan

Roman Catholic Cardinal Timothy Dolan will deliver the closing prayer at the Democratic National Convention as well as this week's Republican meeting, in a sign of bipartisanship after Dolan had taken a role opposing the White House on policy matters.

Dolan, the archbishop of New York and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, last week accepted an invitation to deliver the closing prayer at the Republican National Convention tomorrow in Tampa, Fla.

His office announced yesterday he would do the same for the Democrats in Charlotte, N.C.

Political analysts see many Catholics as "swing voters" who can be swayed to vote for either party, making Dolan welcome at both conventions.

"It was made clear to the Democratic convention organizers, as it was to the Republicans, that the cardinal was coming solely as a pastor, only to pray, not to endorse any party, platform or candidate," Joseph Zwilling, spokesman for the New York archdiocese, said in a statement.

Dolan has become an increasingly influential political figure and a champion for conservatives, especially since he challenged President Barack Obama over a federal health insurance provision that required Catholic institutions such as universities and hospitals to cover birth control. **REUTERS**

'Civility pledge'

- Dolan said on Monday that he wanted Obama and Romney to sign a "civility pledge" to ensure they would not make personal attacks during the campaign and instead concentrate on substantive issues.

myentertainment

2

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

@JimGaffigan
Can we start calling earbuds thong ear muffs?

@bobsaget
The only thing you get to pick in life is your boogers.

@Rosie (Rosie O'Donnell)
Oh my god I lost 10 lbs already eating plant based food !!!

@DougBenson
I'd watch Piers Morgan if celebrity guests came on and interviewed a chair Piers Morgan wasn't in.

Saget

Lohan a suspect in theft — yes, again

Although her name was initially cleared, **Lindsay Lohan** is now officially a suspect in the theft of $100,000 worth of valuables from a Hollywood home.

Last week, police were called to the home of **Sam Magid** after Lohan, her assistant and others spent the night partying. Here's where things get messy, even by Lohan standards: Magid claimed that insanely expensive sunglasses and watches were missing, but later recanted his story. Then, on Monday, two of Lohan's friends — including **Andrew Knight**, son of hip-hop mogul **Suge Knight** — stopped by Magid's house with some of the stolen items that they claim Lohan gave them, reports TMZ.

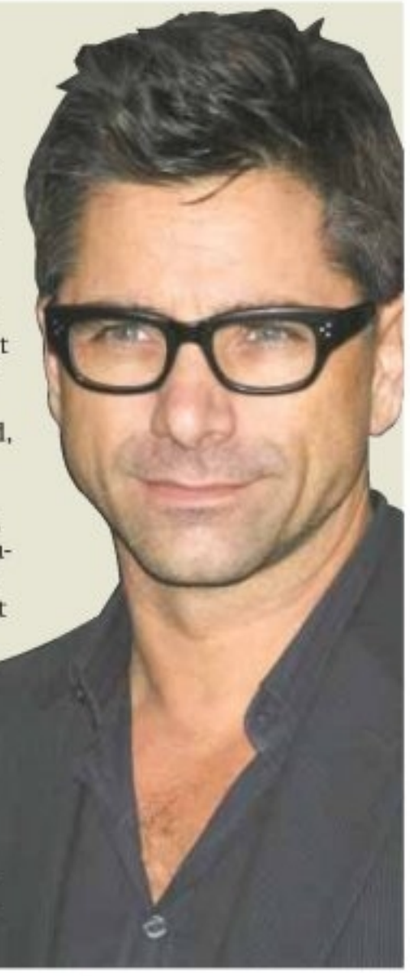
What's Lohan have to say for herself? Quite a bit. According to TMZ, she claims that she was in an Ambien fog that night but does remember hiding jewelry, watches and Tiffany silverware out of fear they would be stolen by other guests. As for anything that actually did walk off, she blames Knight.

Lohan's father, **Michael Lohan**, is calling the accusation against his daughter an unfair "witch hunt" — presumably because he forgets she stole a necklace from a high-end jewelry store last year, resulting in a months-long, soul-crushing courtroom circus. Must be nice, Michael. Must be nice.

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Lohan has her criminal chic look down by now.

Emergency Stamos dose



Stamos

In the midst of another **Lohan** hurricane, let's now turn to our personal storm shelter full of kittens and pizza bagels, **John Stamos**.

John, why don't you tell us how you're ready to meet a nice girl and settle down?

"The other day, I was reading something that said, '**Jimmy Kimmel**, 44.' And I was like, 'Am I older than Jimmy Kimmel?'" the actor, who is 49, tells People magazine. "Not that he looks old — Jimmy's my buddy — but he's got kids and responsibility. I think part of me feeling not so adult-like is that I don't have those pillars that say you're an adult. I'm not married, I don't have kids."

Brand spices up his life

We're beginning to think that **Russell Brand** has a type.

A month after finalizing his divorce from **Katy Perry**, the comedian is linked to none other than **Geri Halliwell** — aka **Ginger Spice**, the original pop star to declare pants optional.

Halliwell and Brand were spotted at the Olympics together — and while she won't talk about her relationship, she does admit there's something going on. "I'm not going into details," she tells Hello! Magazine. "Right now there's nothing serious."

Talking points

Is there a Prince Harry video?

Prince Harry's headaches over his naked romp in Las Vegas earlier this month may not be over, as Radar Online is reporting that a video of the incident could end up online shortly — for the right price. "There is video of Harry partying naked with women in the Las Vegas hotel room. There have been some very quiet inquiries to see how much the video is worth," a source says. "The video has not been shopped around yet. With all the attention the photos got, the people with the video know it could be worth a fortune."

▶ Prince Harry has a lot of photos ops to go.

Amanda Bynes, go to your room right now

Amanda Bynes' most recent hit-and-run incident has led investigators to renew their interest in a similar accident involving the actress from earlier this year, according to Hollyscoop. "Both of Amanda Bynes' hit and run cases are under review right now. I cannot say that we re-opened the original hit-and-run case, because it was never closed," a spokesman for the L.A. City Attorney's office tells the website. "She has not been charged with anything as of yet. No dates have been set for arraignment or anything else with Amanda at this time." Both incidents — one in April and one in August — involve Bynes rear-ending another car and then fleeing the scene.

Osbourne has help managing his MS

Jack Osbourne was recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, but fiance **Lisa Stelly** is helping him live with the disease. "Lisa makes sure he's healthy — eating right and exercising," a friend tells Us Weekly. "They love staying active as a family." The couple has a daughter, 4-month-old Pearl.

Venice envy, 2012

1: Naomi Watts got a hand after docking at the Venice Film Festival yesterday.

2: Also teetering around the Venice docks in questionable boating shoes: **Kate Hudson.**

3: Tennis pro **Mary Carillo**, **Alec Baldwin** and **Anna Wintour** crashed the Moet & Chandon Suite at the 12th Annual USTA Serves Opening Night Gala, the kickoff to the US Open.

4: Long time, no see, **Julia Stiles**! The actress was at the "Heartless" opening night party in New York City on Monday night.

5: When visiting the set of "Extra" on Monday, Olympic gymnast **McKayla Maroney** flashed her infamous not-even-a-little-impressed face.

6: Sofia Vergara was spotted out and about in New York City yesterday. Think we could stow away in her purse next time?

1: GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTY IMAGES
2: IACOPO RAULE/FILMMAGIC
3: MICHAEL KOVAC/GETTY IMAGES
4: ANDREW H. WALKER/GETTY IMAGES
5: NOEL VASQUEZ/GETTY IMAGES
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Nick Cave's 'Lawless': Not so flawless

WEINSTEIN COMPANY

▶ Tom Hardy is one of the Bondurant boys in "Lawless" — in theaters now.

Oscar season begins early with a new film from the director of 'The Road,' John Hillcoat, and screenwriter Cave Despite great performances, this tale about Prohibition-era bootleggers doesn't quite come together

In "Lawless," the three brothers Bondurant supply their Virginia county with a special, beloved brand of moonshine during Prohibition. Based on "The Wettest County in the World" — a fictionalized account of author Matt Bondurant's grandfather and his brothers — the story was written for the screen by musician Nick Cave. As with many book adaptations, there is a meandering quality to the film. Sometimes those fondest of the material shouldn't be left to decide what lands on the cutting room floor — because more often than not, nothing does.

We're introduced to the characters — Shia LaBeouf as the smart-but-cowardly youngest brother, Jason Clarke as the drunken, brute force of the group and Tom Hardy as the brains of the operation — responding to others with either a grunt or a brass knuckle to the face. A new deputy (Guy Pearce) comes to town, aiming to crack down on the bootlegging — or at least receive a tithing for turning a blind eye — but the brothers are defiant.

If you go

'Lawless'
Director: John Hillcoat
Cast: Tom Hardy, Shia LaBeouf, Guy Pearce
Rating: R
Grade: ●●●○○

We know this conflict will come to a head at some point — but in the meantime, the film dallies with LaBeouf and Mia Wasikowska (as a chaste local girl) making eyes at each other, as well as Jessica Chastain smoking butts behind the brothers' restaurant counter.

There are moments of shockingly graphic violence and those in which Pearce's sneer is truly chilling — and Hardy's subtle performance is charming. But the film is neither a character study nor a Western, nor a good-guys-versus-bad-guys caper. It's not enough of any one thing to amount to something great.

HEIDI PATALANO
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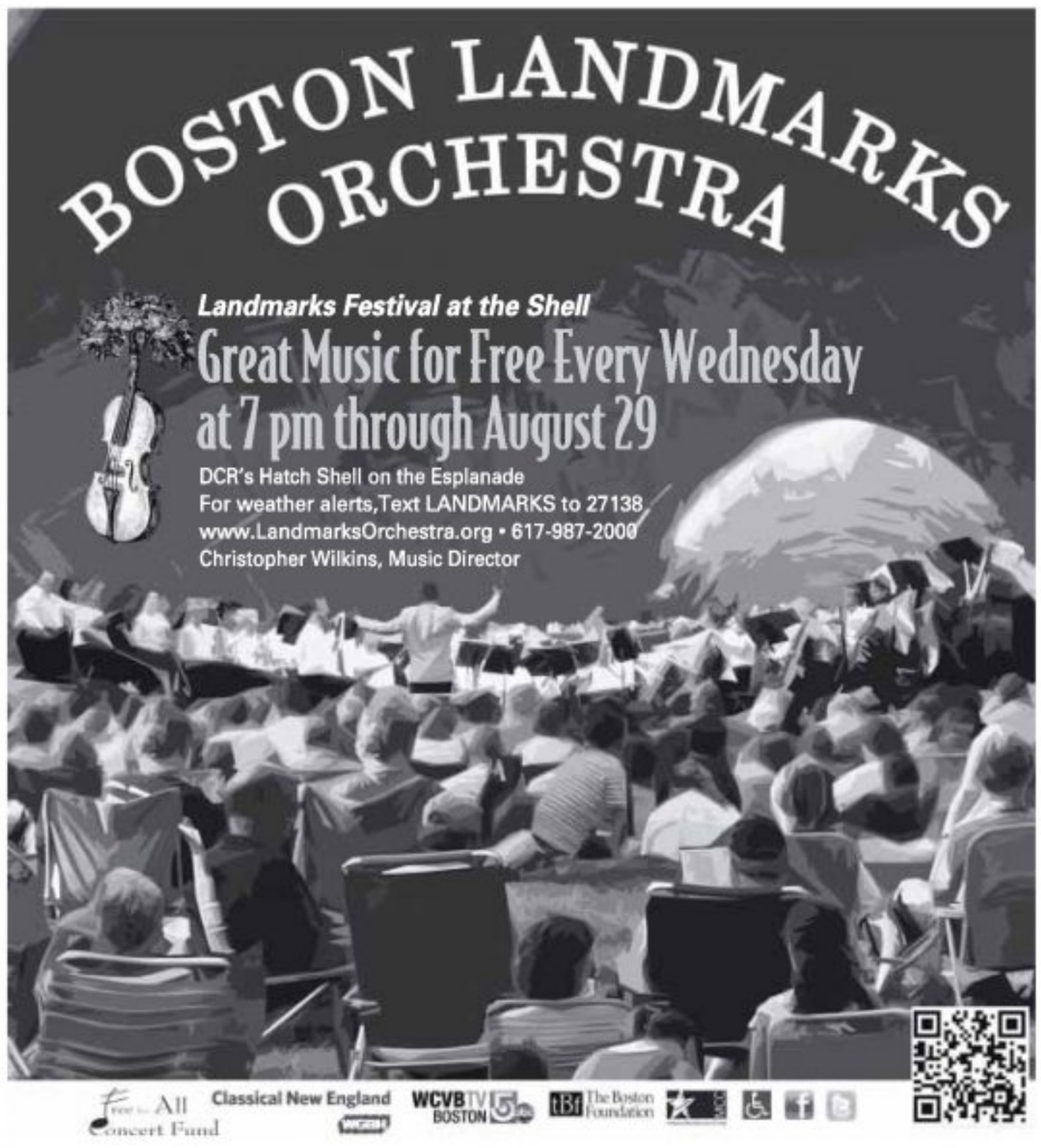
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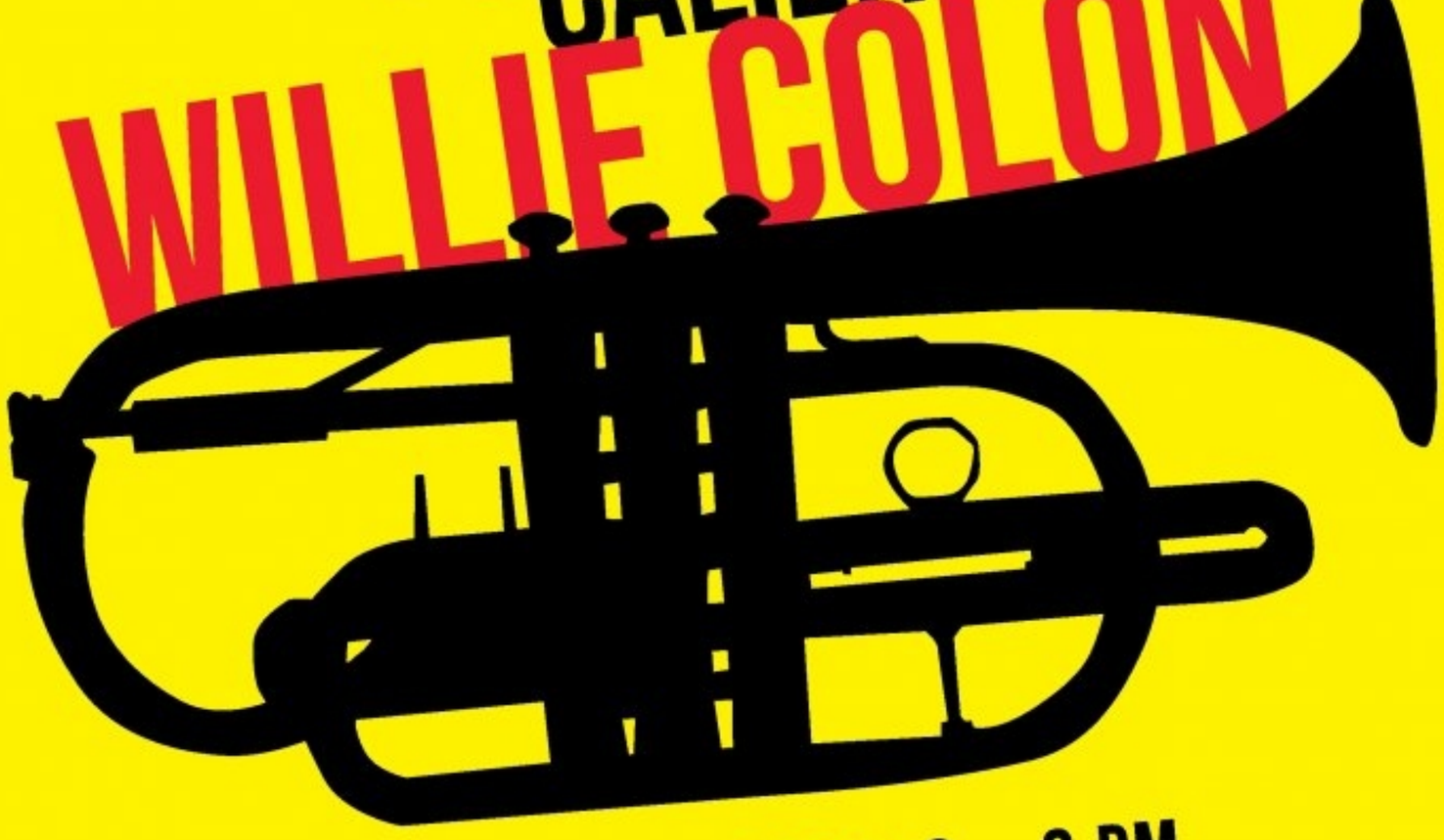

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TV watch list

▶ Mehcad Brooks and Michael Imperioli star in "Necessary Roughness."

WILFORD HABEWOOD/USA NETWORK

'Necessary Roughness'

DRAMA. As the season opener approaches, Dr. Dani and the New York Hawks face disaster — mostly in the form of guest star Michael Imperioli, who plays a hard-partying pal of TK, the player still battling an OxyContin addiction.

Summer finale, 10 p.m., USA

'Futurama'

COMEDY. In the two-part midseason finale, Bender develops a passion for hunting, and the crewmembers are reborn as wild animals — not in the same episode, though we're sure the robot has a few choice words for his meat-bag companions in both half-hours, regardless.

Midseason finale, 10 p.m., Comedy Central

AMBER RAY

Donald Faison can't hardly wait

The former 'Scrubs' star talks about his upcoming wedding and reuniting on camera with Zach Braff

Think you've had a bad roommate experience? It probably can't top that of actor Donald Faison.

"One of my roommates stole $1,000 dollars from me, forged a check with my name," says the star of TV Land's "The Exes," which centers on a group of divorced men whose neighbor is their divorce attorney — and landlord. "That would be really awesome if I could say, 'Yeah, somebody ate my sandwich,' but no, that's not [what happened]."

After nine years playing goofy surgeon Turk on "Scrubs," Faison is now in the shoes of lothario Phil on "The Exes" — but don't assume that art imitates life in this situation.

"I wish I could say I was a ladies man, but I'm not," the actor says. "I got married young, I had kids young, I did all of that stuff young. I should have lived a little but I didn't. But it's easy to play a ladies man on television — you'll never get shot down, unless the scene calls for it."

Not that he needs to worry about the ladies in real life: Faison is engaged to longtime love CaCee Cobb, but is "not deep into wedding planning at all right now," he says.

"The crazy thing is when you get engaged, apparently you gotta plan a wedding. I didn't know this," he says. "I guess we're both lazy; we're just having a great time being engaged."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ "The Exes," starring Donald Faison, airs Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m. on TV Land.

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

Welcome back, Zach

On tonight's episode of "The Exes," Faison welcomes his former "Scrubs" co-star Zach Braff to the show. (Braff plays "the Roger Federer of our realm," Faison explains.) Faison says he and Braff "hang out all the time," and it was easy for them to fall back into the onscreen groove.

"Because our friendship is so strong, maybe that's why it's so easy to [work together]," Faison says. "There was always that, 'If only we could find another way to get us together,' and we found it. Who knew TV Land had the power to do it?"

Faison would be glad to see Braff to come back to their set — or other TV sets, for that matter.

"I'll be honest: If he really wanted to come back to the multi-cam sitcom, it's a way for him to go. He'd crush it."

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Now on shelves

In a world saturated by artificial flavors, pesticides and genetically engineered foods, it's no wonder that people have embraced organic produce and natural remedies for their ailments. Metro takes a look at recent health books that recommend replacing medicines invented in laboratories with more wholesome substitutes.

'Treatment Alternatives for Children' by Dr. Lawrence Rosen and Jeff Cohen

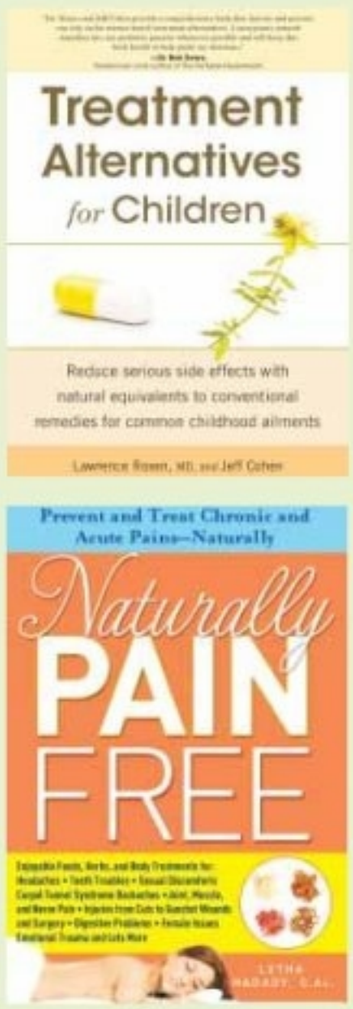
Rosen, an expert in pediatric integrative medicine, and Cohen, an author and parent of two, teamed up to compare medications with natural alternatives for the younger members of families.
Why it's good: With children in mind, the book examines a wide variety of minor ailments, from sore throats to bee stings to chicken pox. The authors describe the conventional remedy and treatment alternative together in an easy-to-read chart for each sickness, highlighting dosages and potential side effects.

'Naturally Pain Free: Prevent and Treat Chronic and Acute Pains — Naturally' by Letha Hadady, D.Ac.

In this book, Hadady describes food, herbs and body treatments to address a wide variety of aches and pains.
Why it's good: Hadady has organized the book by type of pain and equally emphasizes both prevention and healing once pain occurs. She also provides personal tips in addition to the recipes for natural concoctions to alleviate discomfort.

'The Healing Remedies Sourcebook: Over 1000 Natural Remedies to Prevent and Cure Common Ailments' by Dr. C. Norman Shealy

Shealy gives the scientific and common names for items with healing properties and directs the reader to these items through a listing of ailments at the back of the book.
Why it's good: Shealy draws from a wide base of potential treatments, such as folk and home recipes, herbalism, aromatherapy, vitamins and minerals. He also briefly describes the history of his treatments and why people believe they work.


Treatment Alternatives for Children
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Lawrence Rosen, MD, and Jeff Cohen
Prevent and Treat Chronic and Acute Pains—Naturally
Naturally PAIN FREE
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Over 120 Recipes
JULIE DANILUK, R.H.N.
MEALS THAT HEAL INFLAMMATION
HERBAL ANTIBIOTICS
NATURAL ALTERNATIVES FOR TREATING DRUG-RESISTANT BACTERIA
STEPHEN HARROD BUHNER

'Meals That Heal Inflammation' by Julie Daniluk, R.H.N.

Daniluk, the host of Oprah Winfrey Network's "Healthy Gourmet," suggests a diverse array of recipes to reduce inflammation associated with illnesses ranging from allergies to heart disease.
Why it's good: Daniluk includes diagnostic quizzes so readers can discover what their issues are and explains through charts and text why her methods are effective. Most importantly, Daniluk isn't recommending a diet that must be strictly followed in order to see results; she lets the readers choose what works for them.

'Herbal Antibiotics: Natural Alternatives for Treating Drug-Resistant Bacteria' by Stephen Harrod Buhner

In this second edition, Buhner portrays herbs as a prime tool to fight bacteria, as more and more infections are becoming antibiotic-resistant.
Why it's good: Buhner references more than 1,200 studies in this tome, which is more than three times the size of the previous edition.

'The Healing Powers of Coffee' by Cal Orey

This book examines the health benefits of your cup of joe, which contains the world's most popular psychoactive drug: caffeine.
Why it's good: Starbucks lovers, rejoice and feel guilty no longer! Orey utilizes interviews with medical doctors and researchers along with scientific studies to debunk popular fears of the negative aspects of coffee, while espousing the positive effects the caffeinated beverage can have.

KILLIAN YOUNG

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Bust that BBQ bulge

As the summer winds down, you're likely done trying to get your bikini body or Phelps-like abs. But that doesn't mean you should go hide in sweats for the next nine months. We enlisted Adam Rosante, celeb fitness trainer and founder of The People's Bootcamp, which offers pay-what-you-can classes in New York, to give us some moves to get you fit by fall. Why the specific six outlined here? "[These] exercises target almost every single muscle in the body," Rosante says.

Perform each exercise for 40 seconds with 10 seconds of rest between each move. After you've completed all six exercises, that's one cycle. Rest for 60 seconds, then repeat. Perform the cycle three times. Be sure to keep your core tight throughout the entire workout.

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

Warm-up

Stay away from the long stretches, Rosante says.

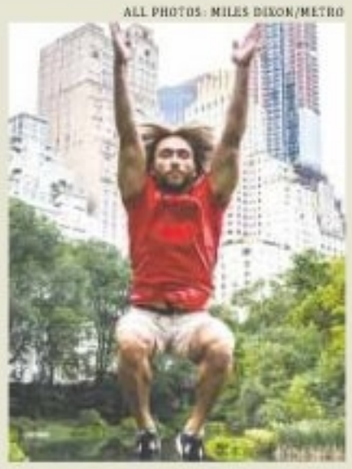
"To just jump right into a long, static stretch is a good way to tear the muscle or fatigue it to a point where you then injure yourself during the workout. You just want to move around and really get the blood flowing. It creates pliability and elasticity in the muscles. Then afterwards, you get into that static, long stretch cooldown. That will elongate those muscles and help prevent them from tightening up and becoming short and constricted, so you get a nice long, lean body."

What counts as a good warm-up? Jogging in place for 20 seconds, 20-30 seconds of jumping jacks, some torso twists — "anything you can do to get your body moving in a functional way," he says.

ALL PHOTOS: MILES DIXON/METRO

Powerthrusts

Stand with feet hip-width apart. Squat until thighs are almost parallel to the floor, then place your hands on the floor in front of you. Kick your feet back to a pushup position. Immediately return your feet to the squat position and jump straight up as high as you can, reaching the fingertips up and bringing the knees to the chest. Land with soft knees and immediately drop back into a squat. Continue the sequence for 40 seconds.



Pushouts

Start in a pushup position with hands directly below your shoulders. Perform a pushup. At the top of the motion, lift the left hand up and bring it out about a foot to the left on the ground. Perform another pushup with staggered hands. At the top of the motion, explode the left hand back to normal pushup position. Do another pushup. Repeat the move with the right hand. Continue alternating for 40 seconds.

Power kicks

Stand with your feet hip-width apart. Bring your fists up just below your chin. Now, open up the chest and pull the shoulders down the back. With your core tight, alternate waist-high front kicks, springing softly from foot to foot so you're never on more than one foot at a time. Continue alternating kicks for 40 seconds.

Birddog pushups

Start in a pushup position with your hands directly below your shoulders. Perform a pushup. At the top of the motion, extend your right arm and left leg to form a straight line from fingertip to heel. Return them both. Perform another pushup and repeat the arm and leg movement on the opposite side. Continue alternating for 40 seconds.

Scissor switches

Stand with your right foot forward and left foot back. Keeping your torso upright, lower yourself into a lunge until your left knee is bent and your right thigh is parallel to the ground. Jump up and scissor your legs mid-air to land down with soft knees in a lunge with your left foot forward and your right leg back. Continue alternating for 40 seconds.

Side plankthroughs

Start in a pushup position with hands directly below your shoulders. Roll to the outside edge of the right foot and stack your left foot on top of the right. Making sure that your right hand is directly below the shoulder, reach the left hand up to the sky. Keep your hips high to form a straight line from heels to head, and then reach the left hand down and behind you through the space between your torso and the floor. Return the hand back up to the sky. Repeat for 40 seconds on alternating sides.

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Letters

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Rights? Gays don't need no basic civil rights! Right?

RE: "GAYS HATE THOSE WHO OPPOSE THEIR RIGHTS!" (METRO, AUG. 23) Ms. Weisenburger, I totally agree! All us anti-gay people want to do is deprive a minority group of their basic civil rights, and for some reason they keep getting uppity about it!

Sure, they may only be asking for rights that would elevate them above the level of second-class citizens in a way that wouldn't AT ALL affect the rest of the population. AND sure, they may not be protesting free speech, but rather institutionalized discrimination. Still, I will never stop fighting against their equality. I think it's about time us anti-gay folks stand up for what the Founding Fathers would've wanted: basing laws on antiquated religious ideologies.

GEORGE WALLACE, VIA E-MAIL

The first rule of LGBT agenda: There is no LGBT agenda

Those unenlightened souls who supposedly champion free speech can't seem to grasp the fact that we LGBTers have no "agenda." We just desire the same basic rights as any heterosexual couple and refuse to be treated as second-class citizens.

It's not a sin to love another person; so how, exactly, will impeding our happiness benefit ANYONE, regardless of orientation?

BRENDAN SPILLANE, VIA E-MAIL

Shove donkeys and elephants out of the legislature's zoo

We are all aware of the presidential election that is to be held in November. We should also be aware that there is very little difference on important issues between President Obama and Mitt Romney. They both confirm that they would continue the suicidal massive government spending and intervention that would send our country in the same direction as Greece and other spendthrift nations. Each believes that, as president, he may start wars at will and may shred the Constitution's protections against surveillance, torture and indefinite detention. No matter who is elected, our country continues down the same path. The best way to get our country back is to elect constitutionalists to the legislature.

JANET MCCARTHY, VIA E-MAIL

Capitalist reality too heavy for boat

RE: "CAPITALIST BOATS TUG OTHERS WITH THEM" (METRO, AUG. 27) Capitalism is like Communism — better in theory. Since Americans have embraced Reaganomics, we have seen an insane increase in CEO pay and an everlasting extension of tax cuts for the wealthiest. Seem like the tide is quite high and "capitalistic boats" are not tugging, but drowning people in their wake. Perhaps when those at the top trickle money down to employees and the economy as supply side implies, we will truly see what Capitalism can accomplish. Until then, prepare to keep throwing expensive floatation devices — and lots of them.

JAMIE MINTON, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** It behooves you to follow your instincts when it comes to your business dealings. If nothing more, use these perceptions as support for your logical assessments.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Make it a point to take some of the slack out of a fading friendship that you haven't had much time for lately. There are few things more valuable than good chums.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** The race is likely to be won by the smartest, not necessarily the swiftest, when it comes to a career matter. Be sure to use that thinking cap of yours, so you don't trip over your own feet.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** If you're alert, you have a good chance of learning something extremely important from a good friend. However, what's said should be restricted to the parties involved.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Your determination in pursuing your objectives is impressive, but equally important is that others recognize your intentions and make it a point to get out of your way.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** If you believe it is necessary to make a difficult decision that everyone else is putting off, have the courage to stick to your guns and do so.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** This is likely to be the day when you promised yourself you'd embark on carefully laid out plans. If you know each step you must take, there isn't any reason why you shouldn't succeed.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** By staying in the middle at all times, you'll fare much better in your dealings with friends. If you're smart, you won't let it be known which side you really think is right.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Spare yourself from calling in an expensive repairman by exercising preventive maintenance. If you play it safe, you won't be sorry.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Be sure to include an extremely introverted, shy friend in your plans. If the invitation doesn't come from you, it isn't likely to be issued at all because no one else will think of it.

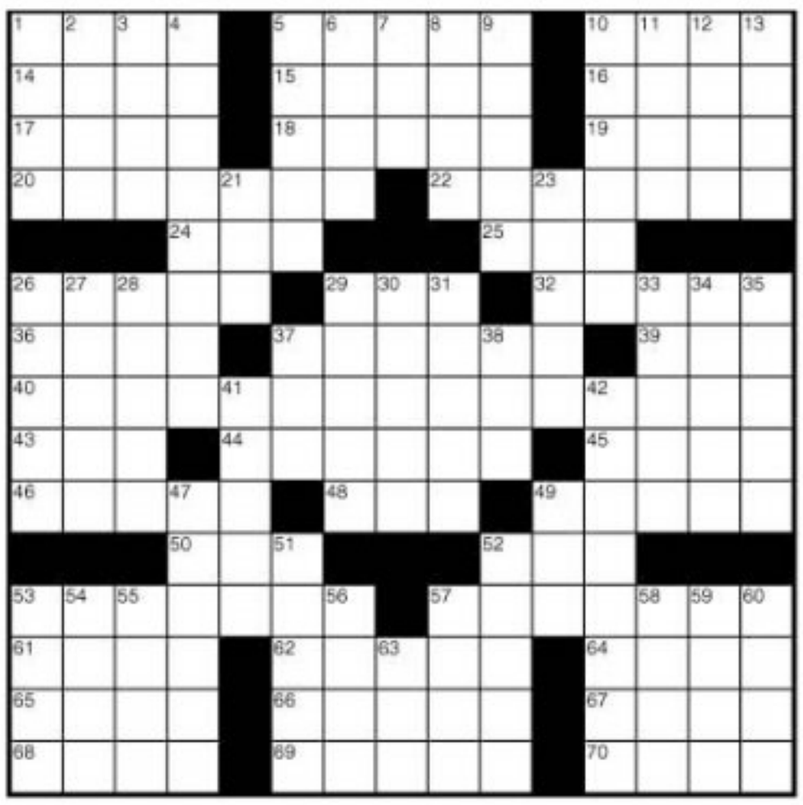
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** The entire clan is likely to profit when the shopping duties are put in your hands. Your caring nature makes you very attentive to everyone's needs.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** You should take advantage of the opportunity to clear the air with a friend when the opportunity presents itself. Don't hesitate to talk it out in detail until both parties are satisfied.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 Dilatory
5 Weight deductions
10 Pac-10 team
14 Nonsense verse writer
15 Type of coffee
16 Extreme damage
17 __ Khan (var.)
18 Flora and fauna
19 Dingy
20 Failed to clear
22 Quadratic equation, e.g.
24 Kind of instinct
25 Untold centuries
26 Tag
29 Vocalist __ Sumac
32 Carthage neighbor
36 Kind of tradition
37 Like some arguments
39 Mil. rank
40 Beatles transport (2 wds.)
43 "Hydrocarbon" suffix
44 Jungle scavengers
45 BNSF driver
46 Caterpillar, for one
48 Utter
49 Jargon
50 Memorable decade
52 Mjr. leaguer
53 Sable kin
57 Not man-made
61 Mountain refrain
62 Karate studios
64 Carryall
65 "Soapdish" actress
66 Archaeology finds
67 Plenty, to a poet
68 Finishes a skirt
69 Aerie builder
70 Treat an icy road

Down
1 Hunk of marble
2 Construction toy
3 Waikiki setting



4 Alaskan range
5 Yak's home
6 Like the Mojave
7 Guanabara Bay port
8 Is, in Avila
9 Fossil rock
10 High-priority
11 Street edge
12 Fibber
13 "Foxfire" author __ Seton
21 __ -de-sac
23 Brie's tray-mate
26 Trustworthy
27 Ice hockey venue
28 Harvest machine
29 Oui and da
30 Hawaii's — Loa
31 Cornered (2 wds.)
33 Frosting
34 African river
35 Caution
37 Road map info
38 911 responder
41 Windy City airport
42 Detours
47 Kills a bill
49 Easel display
51 MacDowell of "Groundhog Day"
52 Out of style
53 Netting
54 Liniment target
55 Baba au __
56 Vending machine buy
57 Ex-NFL coach Chuck __
58 Gossipy Barrett
59 Nefertiti's god
60 Lascivious
63 Keep in shape

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

5			1		8			9
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		4	7	8	3			
			2	9	4	5		
				4		7	2	
4		7			1		8	
1			9		7			3

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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3

ON TV TODAY

NFL

PATS AT GIANTS
7 P.M., WBZ

The cold, hard football facts

A look at the NFL through the eyes of the stat experts at Coldhard-football-facts.com:

- **Tony Romo's defensive woes in Dallas Cowboys** QB Tony Romo's career passer rating of 96.9 is second all-time only to Aaron Rodgers (104.1) - ahead of elite contemporaries Tom Brady (96.4), Peyton Manning (94.9) and Drew Brees (94.0). But all those other quarterbacks are champions. One problem in Dallas: The Cowboys have consistently fielded porous pass defenses, as measured by defensive passer rating.
- **Dallas defensive passer rating in Romo era:**
2011 - 88.37 (25th)
2010 - 92.75 (29th)
2009 - 83.48 (16th)
2008 - 86.21 (20th)
2007 - 75.15 (5th)

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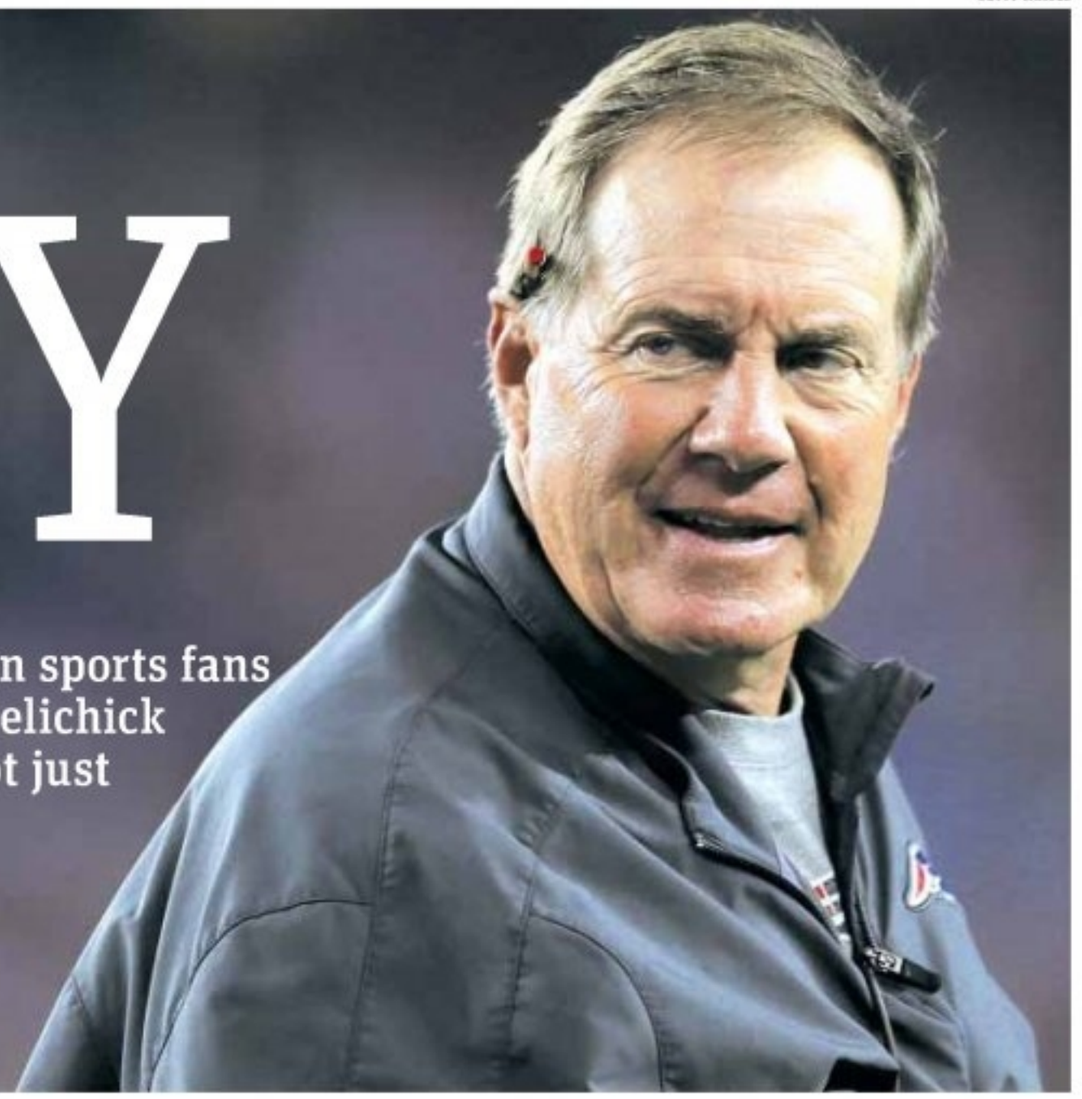
MR. JOY



- Evil to most, Boston sports fans can't get enough of Belichick
- The reason? It's not just the wins

SPRINGSTEEN ROCKS THE PARK
The Boston Globe
Hospitals gain, lose in state's health law
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There is no more polarizing non-player in professional sports than Patriots head coach Bill Belichick. In the eyes of many a New England honk, he is regarded as a gridiron genius that can do no wrong. Everywhere else, he's reviled as some sort of dour and humorless curmudgeon who is always one step ahead of the NFL's rulebook.

So why do we love him so much? It has to be about more than his five Super Bowl appearances (three wins) since he took over in Foxboro before the 2000 season.

No B.S.

For me, what he represents is the best quality that many possess in this region: authenticity. Belichick is not a self-promoter (Rex Ryan), cheerleader (Pete Carroll) or fake tough guy (Bill Cowher). All he cares about is winning football games.

Sounds simple enough, right?

Quoted

"I told him this: 'Man, if it was up to me, that [Super Bowl] trophy would be called the Lombardi - Belichick.'"

HALL OF FAME RECEIVER MICHAEL IRVIN TO THE BOSTON HERALD

Best ever?

A look at head coach Bill Belichick by the numbers:

- **175-97** With a (.643) winning percentage, Belichick hasn't even lost his 100th regular season game yet.
- **Belichick** trails only Don Shula for most Super Bowl appearances and Chuck Noll for most Super Bowl wins. He is one behind each.
- **Parity** With the salary cap, free agency era and a league that strives for equality, no coach has as many Super Bowl rings as Belichick. He has five in total, dating back to his days as a defensive coordinator with the Giants.
- **Playoffs** He's done his best work in the postseason, owning a 17-7 record in the months of January and February.

Yes, his wardrobe could best be described as slightly homeless, but since when did we turn to NFL coaches for fashion advice? He is a coach's coach who would rather break down game film until the wee hours and run endless practices with his team than basically anything else in life.

Of course, he's only human (at least partially) and there are signs that he enjoys the finer things: namely buxom blonde cougars and summers on Nantucket. Oh, and Bon Jovi. I cannot explain that strange obsession.

In many ways, I think the level of hate he elicits from people across the country is simply jealousy that he isn't coaching their favorite NFL team. Otherwise, what isn't there to like? You'll never see him waste time on locker room drama (hi Red Sox) or what he says to the media, since he invented one of the most famous phrases in the English language: "It is what it is."

He deeply respects the history of the game and always gives his teams the best chance to win any given week. I realize that Philips Andover and Wesleyan aren't exactly schools that everybody has the chance to attend, but Belichick has deep local roots that make him an honorary New Englander. If he never wins another NFL game, he will still receive standing ovations at every Bruins and Celtics playoff game that he drags girlfriend Linda Holliday along to.

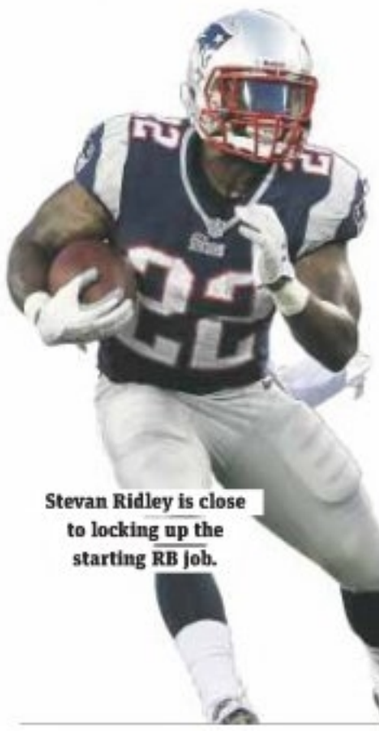
Bill Belichick is an original, the furthest thing from a fraud that you can find. And that is a big reason as to why we love him.

Not just because of the Super Bowl rings.

RICH SLATE
sports@metro.us

3 STORYLINES TO WATCH

Pats wrap up preseason slate with Super Bowl rematch against Giants in New Jersey ◗ Last chance for several players to make team's 53-man roster



Stevan Ridley is close to locking up the starting RB job.

1 Nothing more to see here
The Patriots made at least one surprising cut when Jabar Gaffney got the heave-ho on Monday. Donte Stallworth followed him out the door. That essentially ended the Patriots' wide receiver competition, with Deion Branch emerging as the victor. Wes Welker, Brandon Lloyd, Aaron Hernandez (who you'll see being used as a wide receiver often), and Rob Gronkowski will be Tom Brady's other main targets. But it would be shocking to see much — if any — of them tonight vs. the Giants. Despite a relatively poor offensive showing this postseason, Brady and his receivers should be the least of worries once the regular season begins. Ryan Mallett and Brian Hoyer should split time tonight (7 p.m., WBZ) at quarterback.

2 Last chance for O-line
Part of the Patriots' big issue on offense has been quarterback protection, specifically at the right and left tackle positions. Nate Solder and Marcus Cannon, come on down! These two guys have been under the microscope since camp opened, and they'll get one more chance to prove they can stand the heat before the regular season begins. Logan Mankins will steady things, but still no sign of Brian Waters. And will Dan Koppen make the team? We can already hear Gisele after Week 1 … "My husband cannot [expletive] throw the ball and block at the same time! I can't believe they missed a block so many times!"

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jeremy Ebert

3 Fan-tastic?
The Patriots defense isn't going to rank at the very top of the league, but it would be a major disappointment if they didn't make some big improvements from last season. The goal over the offseason seemed to be to shore up the pass defense. A couple of first rounders in Chandler Jones and Dont'a Hightower look to contribute in a big way starting Week 1, while a couple of other defensive rookies — former Ohio State rugby standout Nate Ebner, playing safety, and Illinois safety Tavon Wilson have done enough to earn spots. Jermaine Cunningham has looked good in camp, as has Kyle Love on the line. The Pats 'D' just might be worth a late pick in your fantasy draft.

JIMMY TOSCANO
sports@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bryant

Bryant asked for help from Cowboys

Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant wanted the team to intervene and give him guidelines on his personal life, Bryant's adviser said on ESPN Dallas 103.3 FM. Bryant hasn't spoken with reporters since his July arrest for allegedly assaulting his mother. The original guidelines said Bryant has a midnight curfew and bans on drinking alcohol and attending strip clubs. METRO

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Dice-K put on waivers

Daisuke Matsuzaka had his best start in more than a year Monday, but the Red Sox opted to place him on waivers yesterday.

Boston can trade the Japanese baseball icon to any team by Aug. 31 if he clears waivers. Of note, Dice-K has a no-trade clause.

The 31-year-old pitcher earned his first victory of the 2012 season Monday against Kansas City as he worked seven innings, allowing just five hits and one run (not earned). He also struck out six.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Matsuzaka

Matsuzaka had his best two seasons as a Red Sox in his first and second years in Boston, as he won 15 games in 2007 and 18 games in 2008. In 2008 he also had an ERA of 2.90.

He will be a free agent at the conclusion of this season. The Red Sox face the Angels for the second time in as many days in Anaheim tonight (10 p.m., NESN) as Jon Lester goes to the mound against C.J. Wilson.

Aaron Cook will close out the three-game set for Boston against the Angels before Felix Doubront gets the nod on the hill Friday when the Red Sox continue their West Coast swing against the Athletics. ● MATT BURKE

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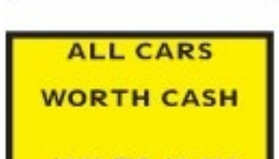
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NEW KID ON THE BLOCKS

Local artist Jessica Sun Lee on turning her creative project into covetable wall art ◗ You just found the perfect gift for the holidays

If necessity is the practical mother of invention, then accessibility must be its pushy aunt. When musician and artist Jessica Sun Lee moved into a larger home with an attic space earlier this year, she found the physical space to create an art project she'd been pondering for a while. But it was when she got accepted for the SoWa summer market that the graphic artist got busy, building up inventory for her Love on the Blocks stall.

"I'd been thinking about it for a couple of years, but I need a lot of space to do these," she says of the decorative wood blocks. "I applied for the market, but I didn't think I would get accepted — and they said yes. It was a little overwhelming, but I just didn't think about all the things that could stop me doing it and got on with it."

Though it sounds simple — printed birch wood blocks — developing the right process to give a transparent finish that merges the eye-catching image with the beautiful wood grain took experimentation and investment in equipment. But the labor of creativity is part of the appeal for Sun Lee.

"It's so gratifying," she says. "Working on the Internet every day, what you create doesn't live anywhere, you can't hold it. This is real."

Sun Lee wants to expand to upcoming holiday markets and get her work into indie boutiques, which means more happy hours in her attic, which was a heat trap this summer.

"It was brutal, but it's character-building," she laughs. "It's struggling for your art!"

LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us

LEO WHITE

▶ You can catch Jessica Sun Lee at the SoWa summer market through October.

▶ Sun Lee prints her images on birch wood blocks.

JESSICA SUN LEE

Get some!

Playing with Blocks

Sun Lee creates custom blocks as well as a variety of designs including animals, places and what she calls "quirky illustrations." The Brighton-based artist plans an abstract series next: "It'll be more on the arty side to satisfy that part of me," she says. Love on the Blocks is at the SoWa summer market (460 Harrison Ave., Boston, www.sowaopenmarket.com.) Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through October and online at www.loveontheblocks.com.

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Bringing the farm a little closer to the table

Even you, Jamaica Plain renter, have room for a container garden
Expert advice for both beginners and those in midst of tomato harvest

By now, you may have noticed the mini farmers markets spilling out of your neighbors' window boxes, down their steps and across their tiny backyards. The farm-to-table trend has hit home, even in cramped city quarters, thanks to creative container gardening.

Herbs and leafy vegetables, such as lettuce or chard, are perfect for growing in containers as long as they can get some sunlight and TLC, says Alice Edgerton of Graceful Gardens, an organic gardening company in Philadelphia whose specialties include "edible landscapes." With a little extra maintenance, tomatoes, peppers and eggplants can work well, too. (If you haven't already started your garden, check out nurseries for some preplanted produce.)

"It's possible to grow a ton of food in containers, so that is often the easiest bet if you are a renter," Edgerton says. "But you probably need to give up your dreams of growing anything sprawling, like watermelons or pumpkins."

Whether you're planning for next year or are in the midst of maintaining your finicky tomatoes, Edgerton shares these tips for your pint-sized farm.

Choose a container

"You can plant in pretty much anything — plants don't care if they're in a coffee can or a Ming vase," says Edgerton.

Make sure whatever container you choose has drainage holes and wasn't used to store anything toxic that could seep into your veggies. Knowing how spaced out your seeds or plants should be will determine how big a container you need.

Water, water everywhere

"You need to water more than you would planting in the ground," Edgerton says. "You can have the best soil and light, but if you don't water you're not going to have too much fun."

She recommends elevating the container off the ground to help drain excess water. On a deck, place something under the container to catch any liquid and avoid damaging the wood.

RACHEL VIGODA
letters@metro.us

ALEX JOKES

Just beet it: You can grow way more than herbs in containers.

▶ Alice Edgerton of Graceful Gardens specializes in "edible landscapes."

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BRUISER'S STORY

By Attorney George Warshaw

I want to share with you the story of Bruiser. Bruiser is a sweet, gentle rescue dog that we got from Mississippi. He's the good looking one in the photo.

He was a 5 month old "practice dog" that was sent to Mississippi State University Veterinary School from a shelter. He didn't have a long life ahead of him. Pets are routinely sent by shelters to vet schools everywhere for students to learn treatment and surgery skills. Once healed the pets are commonly sent back to the shelters where they usually have a very short life.

Bruiser was saved by a wonderful veterinary student from New Hampshire who helped start a rescue program at the school, "Homeward Bound." The students now send pets to other states for adoption.

We received several photos of available dogs. One photo showed a goofy looking 5 month old puppy with big ears, an oversized head and an undersized body. He needed hip surgery. He had a wonderful smile and a happy soul, but was only walking on 3 legs, among other problems. I didn't think anyone would adopt him.

He recovered beautifully. Bruiser is an easy dog. He comes when called and you don't even know he's around – he's very quiet.

*Read the **full story** about Bruiser at http://georgeinthemetro.com.*

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GWA

George Warshaw is a real estate attorney and author. He represents buyers and sellers of homes and condos in Massachusetts, and prepares wills, trusts, and estate plans. George welcomes new clients and questions at metro@warshawlaw.com.

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EXTRA 10% OFF all sale & clearance watches, shoes, handbags, coats, suits, dresses, intimates; men's suit separates & sportcoats and select home items

Excludes: Everyday Values (EDV), specials, super buys, furniture, mattresses, floor coverings, rugs, electrics/electronics, cosmetics/fragrances, gift cards, jewelry trunk shows, previous purchases, special orders, selected licensed depts., special purchases, services, macys.com. Cannot be combined with any savings pass/coupon, extra discount or credit offer except opening a new Macy's account. EXTRA SAVINGS % APPLIED TO REDUCED PRICES.

OR TEXT "CPN" TO MACYS (62297)

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VALID 8/29-9/3/2012

SPECIAL 14.99
LAUREN RALPH LAUREN
Reg. $40-$50, after special 19.99-24.99. Lawton pillows in any size. ★WebID 555356.

SPECIAL 40% OFF
ALL IRONS
Special 44.99-154.99. Reg. 74.99-259.99, after special 49.99-159.99. Shown: Rowenta Effective Comfort iron.

MACY'S CARD/SAVINGS PASS DISCOUNT DOESN'T APPLY TO SPECIALS.

FREE ONLINE SHIPPING EVERY DAY + EXTRA 15% OR 10% OFF!
FREE SHIPPING WITH $99 PURCHASE. USE PROMO CODE: *FALL* FOR EXTRA SAVINGS; OFFER VALID 8/29-9/3/2012. EXCLUSIONS APPLY; SEE MACYS.COM FOR DETAILS.

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BLOG APP

Fine jewelry specials are only available at stores that carry fine jewelry. Free item is at time of purchase & must be of equal or lesser value than purchased item; returns must include the purchased & free items. ➤REG. & ORIG. PRICES ARE OFFERING PRICES & SAVINGS MAY NOT BE BASED ON ACTUAL SALES. SOME ORIG. PRICES NOT IN EFFECT DURING THE PAST 90 DAYS. LABOR DAY SALE PRICES IN EFFECT 8/29-9/3/2012. **May contain rose-cut diamonds. ‡All carat weights (ct. t.w.) are approximate; variance may be .05 carat. Jewelry photos may be enlarged or enhanced to show detail. Fine jewelry at select stores; log on to macys.com for locations. Almost all gemstones & colored diamonds have been treated to enhance their beauty & require special care, log on to macys.com/gemstones or ask your sales professional. Rebate is a mail-in offer; allow 4-6 weeks for delivery; in CT, RI, PR & in Dade & Broward Counties, FL, rebate is given at the register. Advertised merchandise may not be carried at your local Macy's and selection may vary by store. Specials & clearance items are available while supplies last. Prices & merchandise may differ at macys.com. Luggage & electric items carry mfrs' warranties; **to see a mfr's warranty at no charge before purchasing,** visit a store or write to: Macy's Warranty Dept., PO Box 1026 Maryland Heights, MO 63043, attn: Consumer Warranties. N2080129. ★Enter the WebID in the search box at macys.com to order.

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